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ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 151345Z DEC 09  
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3914  
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE  
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 6006  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3700  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 3559  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 4248  
RHMCSUU/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 4187

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 001618

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN; EEB;  
ENERGY FOR EKIMOFF/BURPOE/COHEN  
COMMERCE FOR DSTARKS/EHOUSE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/15/2019  
TAGS: [ECON](#) [EPET](#) [PINR](#) [TX](#)  
SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: CHEVRON WEIGHS NEW PROPOSAL

REF: ASHGABAT 1494 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Charge Sylvia Reed Curran for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) On December 11, the local Chevron rep briefed us on a proposal recently made by the Turkmenistan government. Deputy Chairman Bayrammurat Hojамuhammedov had met with the Chevron rep on December 7 and had pitched the idea of Chevron working as part of a Joint Venture onshore (not Yoloten or Osman), helping to rehabilitate underperforming wells and starting work on new wells in that same area. (NOTE: The Chinese started work in the energy sector in Turkmenistan rehabilitating wells. END NOTE.) The Chevron rep told Hojамuhammedov that the MOU governing this project should also include the possibility of other projects in the future.

¶2. (C) The Chevron rep planned to run the proposal by his bosses in the United States and would get back to Hojамuhammedov with an answer. He believed this opportunity was much better than the one the Turkmen had offered regarding a petrochemical project.

¶3. (C) COMMENT: Chevron may have been offered this project, because it is a major company with an office in Ashgabat, its technological capabilities are world renown, and the Turkmen are really serious about expanding opportunities for American companies. All of that may be true, but an added piece is that the company is building relationships here. Specifically, it is offering an unpaid internship to the daughter of State Protocol Chief Berdy Matiev. Matiev is close to his boss, President Berdimuhamedov, and that, in turn, is good for Chevron. According to the Chevron rep (strictly protect), Ms. Matieva is studying Business and Logistics at a university in Texas and is reportedly a top student. Her internship will also be in Texas. Matiev approached the Chevron office in Ashgabat regarding this opportunity for his daughter, and after Chevron's lawyers gave the OK, the company was happy to oblige. COMMENT.  
CURRAN